

The Mild Waves Are Saying—

At Palm Beach—Miami—Havana—the Bahamas—Bimini—Bermuda—the blue Southern waters are saying goodbye to hundreds of New Yorkers. Spring and Easter weddings in New York are calling. And butlers and maids are calling Knickerbocker over the telephone requesting a renewal of "full service."

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IF NOT BEST NAVY, COMMONS FAVORS EQUALITY WITH U.S.

Remarkable Debate Before It Refuses to Increase the Building Programme.

LADY ASTOR SPEAKS

No Chance of War, She Declares, Blaming Irish Catholics for Stirring Strife.

BID TO HARDING IS SEEN

Official Britain Seeks Some Overture From President on Disarmament.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD. Copyright, 1921, by THE NEW YORK HERALD. New York Herald Bureau. London, March 17.

After a spirited debate in which Lady Astor and Herbert Asquith took a prominent part, both declaring that a war between Great Britain and America was inconceivable, the House of Commons to-night refused to increase the navy programme. As finally passed the estimates amount to £1,136,869 gross and £22,479,000 net.

The debate, in which Sir Edward Carson also took a leading role, brought out the issue squarely whether it was to be Britannia or Columbia which was to rule the seas in the future.

Sir James Craig, Parliamentary and Financial Secretary to the Admiralty, in presenting the estimates quoted and corrected the speech of Lord Lee of Fareham, First Lord of the Admiralty, before the Naval Institute last night. His position nevertheless was bitterly attacked in all quarters of the House.

Lady Astor accusing the Irish Roman Catholics in the United States of stirring up all the trouble.

The official position remains, as Lord Lee said last night, that Great Britain is willing to cooperate with the United States to the utmost in any programme of disarmament. According to Lord Lee he was misquoted last night and his correct words are given as follows:

"We see the naval committee of the United States Senate laying down the principle that America shall maintain a navy at least equal to that of any other Power. That is a claim to equality which this country never has accepted in the past and never would accept save in connection with the great English speaking nation which sprang from our loins and ever holding a great place in our regard and confidence."

The difference between our formula and America's is too slight to be made the subject of controversy, still less of friction or hostility."

Sees Plain Bid to Harding. This statement was interpreted in the lobbies to-night as a plain bid for President Harding to make a proposal of a conference on disarmament with Great Britain and Japan, and the British Government would be severely disappointed if such a bid does not come from Washington. It is true that there will be no radical modification of Great Britain's policy until after the imperial conference in June, but the Cabinet is eager to get in touch with President Harding on this matter, so as to be prepared to act according to developments when the imperial conference meets.

No secret was made of the fact that Great Britain would like to see a disarmament programme launched with the United States included in the nations against which the one power standard is designed to prevail.

The amendment by Col. Archer-Shee in favor of enlarging the Government programme was negatived without division and the House of Commons went

Problem Over Execution of Murderer of Talaat

By the Associated Press.

BERLIN, March 17.—A lively discussion has arisen as to whether Salomon Teitiran, the Armenian who assassinated former Grand Vizier Talaat Pasha of Turkey, should be executed by decree of the German courts. Teitiran has confessed, and there were many witnesses of the crime.

It is argued that the crime cannot be regarded as a political one under international usage, and the German courts, therefore, must prosecute the murderer of the man who the Entente officials demanded some time ago should be tried for wholesale Armenian massacres.

on record as willing to see Great Britain fall back to equality with the United States in command of the seas or even take second place.

Sir James Craig defended the naval policy as already outlined, and announced that one submarine and one mine layer, both embracing the latest features and newest experimental ideas, were included with the programme of laying down four capital ships of the Hood type this year.

The Hood is an oil burning battle cruiser of 41,200 tons displacement and of 44,600 with a full load. Besides eight 16 inch guns, she carries twelve 5½ inch guns and four anti-aircraft guns, four three pounders and five machine guns. She also has two submerged torpedo tubes and four which are above water. The vessel has a complement of 1,475 men.

Sir James said newspaper reports indicated that the United States also had come to the conclusion that the present state of naval science did not warrant a departure from reliance on capital ships.

U. S. Would Excel Britain.

Col. Archer-Shee, in moving for the amendment instructing the Admiralty to plan to equal any other Power, declared that in 1923 the United States will have seventeen capital ships, which will make Great Britain's entire fleet obsolete and "for the first time in centuries we would take our place as the second naval Power of the world."

Discussing the possibilities of a conflict between Great Britain and the United States he alluded to the "propaganda at present raging around between us and America," at which Lady Astor interjected:

"The Irish Roman Catholics."

To this Col. Archer-Shee answered:

"Yes, I am sorry to say the church to which I belong is one of the offenders in America, but it is only one."

Sir Frederick Banbury gave perhaps the sharpest tone to the debate by remarking that he was a heavy holder of German 3 per cents, at which Sir Edward Carson interjected:

"Yes, you got out in time."

"Yes," answered Sir Frederick. "I sold out because Germany was going in for a big naval programme, which I considered would be directed against us, and I am afraid something of the same sort might happen over again."

Mr. Asquith, while attempting to minimize the possibility of friction with America, declared it was not wrong to discuss American preparation because America had not hesitated to discuss her

preparations as compared to Britain's. "It is idle to say that we are promoting hostility between the two countries," he said. "I heard that sort of talk before the war with Germany."

Then Sir Edward Carson interjected a bitter demand that if it was true that Great Britain was taking second place to America she ought to tell the British people what is occurring. "Tell the Empire," he said. "Tell them there is another naval Power which might interrupt the great highways of the Empire and let them see what they will do to prevent the greatest catastrophe that could ever happen."

But Lady Astor was more confident. She said that although there was some suspicion as to America's intentions, war between the two countries was inconceivable. She said that Great Britain at the height of her naval supremacy had shown a wonderful spirit in refusing to build against America and suggested that it was America's turn now to prove that she was the righteous nation that President Harding declared her to be.

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That's right!

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—MEN'S SHOPS—

—MEN'S SHOPS—

U. S. BALLOON, HOLDING THREE, LOST FROM CUBA

Breaks From Mooring at Guantanamo Naval Base.

HAVANA, March 17.—A captive balloon with three men in the basket broke from its moorings to-day at the American Naval Station at Guantanamo and sailed away, says a despatch to El Mundo from Guantanamo. Among the men aboard was Capt. Miller of the Medical Corps.

Several airplanes, the despatch adds, went in pursuit of the balloon, but without result. The message asserts the men in the balloon are believed to have been lost.

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Fourth Floor

